

CLAIMS

1. A teleconferencing apparatus comprising a unitary housing including:
- (a) AV capture and reproduction capabilities for capturing video images and spoken audio of a participant in a videoconference;
 - (b) a monitor for displaying visual images associated with at least one participant;
 - (c) audio reproduction capabilities; and
 - (d) an echo canceler to reduce echo during the reproduction of the audio.
2. The teleconferencing apparatus of claim 1, further including:
- (a) an audio summer for receiving the captured audio of a first, second and third participant and combining the received audio of the second and third participants into an audio sum for reproduction at the apparatus of the first participant.
3. The teleconferencing apparatus of claim 2, wherein the AV capture and reproduction capabilities include a plurality of speakers, the apparatus further including:
- (a) an audio control configured to cause the reproduction of the audio sum at the first participant's workstation such that the composition of the audio originating from each of the second and third participants reproduced at each speaker is dependent on a position of the second and third participant images reproduced on the first participant's workstation monitor.
4. The teleconferencing apparatus of claim 3, wherein the housing further includes at least two echo cancelers.
5. The teleconference system according to claim 2, further including:
- (a) a wireless communications connection between the housing and a signal transmitting network; and
 - (b) a docking station for adding bandwidth to signals at the housing.

1 6. The teleconferencing system according to claim 5, wherein the wireless
2 communications connection is configured to accept signals transmitted by cellular
3 telephone channels.

1 7. A teleconferencing system for conducting a teleconference among a plurality of
2 participants, comprising:

- 3 (a) a plurality of workstations each including a unitary housing having
4 a first monitor for displaying visual images, and
5 AV capture and reproduction capabilities for capturing and reproducing video
6 images and spoken audio of the participants, and
7 (b) a first network providing a data path along which data can be shared among a
8 plurality of the participants and displayed on at least one of the first monitors;
9 (c) a second network providing an AV path, for carrying AV signals representing
10 video images and spoken audio of the participants, among the workstations for
11 reproduction at least one monitor associated with the workstation of participant.

1 8. The teleconferencing system of claim 7, further comprising:

- 2 (a) at least one second monitor for displaying visual images associated with at
3 least one workstation.

1 9. The teleconference system according to claim 8, wherein the second monitor is
2 affixed to a side portion of the first monitor at approximately the eye-level of a
3 participant in a teleconference who is using the workstation.

1 10. The teleconferencing system of claim 8, further comprising:

- 2 (a) an echo canceler to reduce echo during the reproduction of the audio.

1 11. The teleconferencing system of claim 8, further comprising:

(a) an audio summer for receiving the captured audio of a first, second and third participant and combining the received audio of the second and third participants into an audio sum for reproduction at the workstation of the first participant.

12. The teleconferencing system of claim 11, wherein the AV capture and reproduction capabilities include a plurality of speakers, the system further including:
(a) an audio control configured to cause the reproduction of the audio sum at the first participant's workstation such that the composition of the audio originating from each of the second and third participants reproduced at each speaker is dependent on a position of the second and third participant images reproduced the first participant's workstation monitor.

13. The teleconferencing system of claim 10, wherein the housing further includes at least two echo cancelers.

14. The teleconferencing system of claim 7, further comprising:
(a) a wireless communications connection between the workstation and a signal transmitting network; and
(b) a docking station for adding bandwidth to signals at a workstation.

15. The teleconferencing system of claim 14, wherein the wireless communications connection is configured to accept signals transmitted by cellular telephone channels.

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